

F-2-73

Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Petersville vicinity
Private

Ca. 1800

The George W. West Farmstead is an agricultural grouping centered on a circa 1800 stone dwelling with a large two-story frame modern addition, a circa 1830's stone springhouse, a frame wagon shed/corn crib of about 1875-1900, a frame chicken house of the first quarter of the 20th century, and a frame bank barn, possibly built about 1875, with a concrete block milk house of the 1920's or 1930's. The stone house is significant for its early 19th century vernacular design and stonemasonry. Possibly built by Thomas West about 1800, it became the property of his son, Dr. George Washington West, in 1832 in a property division among his heirs. Dr. West occupied the property for almost 50 years.

F-2-73

~~F-2-83~~

Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Petersville
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/single dwelling/other dependencies
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn
Agriculture/Subsistence/storage/granary

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Dr. George W. West Farmstead (preferred)

and/or common Westhill Farm

2. Location

street & number end of Weston Drive

☐ not for publication

city, town Petersville

☒ vicinity of

congressional district 6th

state Maryland

county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Howard W. & Irene G. Speaks

street & number R.F.A. Box 600

telephone no.:

city, town Harpers Ferry

state and zip code W. Va. 25425

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

liber 1128

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street

folio 289

city, town Frederick

state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. F-2-73

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 5

The Dr. George W. West Farmstead is an agricultural grouping centered on a two-story stone dwelling house built about 1800 with a large frame addition dating from the early 1980's with a stone springhouse of about the 1830's, a frame bank barn possibly rebuilt in the early 20th century on the foundation of an earlier barn, with a concrete block milk house of about the 1930's, a frame wagon shed/granary of the last quarter of the 19th century, and a frame chicken house of the first quarter of the 20th century. The farmstead is located on the north side of Jefferson Pike at the end of Weston Drive near Petersville, Frederick County, Maryland.

The dwelling house has a three-bay principal elevation facing east with the frame addition of two stories adjoining on the north and the west elevations. The addition leaves visible only two bays on the west or rear elevation of the original rubble stone section. The stone house has a one-story entry porch with rebuilt columns on the main elevation. The fenestration on this facade has three-part windows on each level with corner blocks and fluted mullions. The design of the windows suggests a later date than 1800, possibly the 1820's. Louvred shutters flank the openings. The cornice is corbeled brick and the gable roof has interior end chimneys. The north chimney is enclosed by the addition. The roof is pressed metal. The door is a four-panel type. The addition has yellow vinyl siding and 6/ sash. The interior was not accessible for this survey. Dating of the house was based on the vernacular form of the three-bay original section and the 1808 Varle map, which shows a house indicated "B. West" in the approximate location of the Dr. West house.

Outbuildings:

Springhouse: Located southwest of the stone house at a distance of about 15 yards, the stone springhouse is whitewashed and has an extended gable roof over the entrance door on the north elevation. The roof is corrugated metal and the door is vertical flush boards. Single 6/6 windows are in the side elevations. The springhouse may date from the 1830's.

Wagon shed/granary: The frame pull-through wagon shed with double corn cribs on each side has board and batten siding and a corrugated metal roof. It probably dates from 1875-1900.

Chicken house: The frame chicken house may date from the same period as the wagon shed or from the early 20th century. It has a rectangular form with horizontal flush board siding and a shed roof.

Bank barn and milk house: The frame bank barn's interior was inaccessible and the dating of the structure based on its exterior is tentative. The forebay is located on the east elevation and has lattice enclosure of the lower level. The vertical

(Continued on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-2-73

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates C. 1800 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Dr. George W. West Farmstead is significant for the early 19th century vernacular stone structure of the dwelling house, which has evidence in the three-part windows of the main elevation of later alterations, possibly in the 1820's, to improve the stylistic appearance of the house. Associated with the setting of the house are the domestic and agricultural outbuildings, which range in date from about the 1830's to the 1930's. Other outbuildings undoubtedly existed, but are unlocated and not visible above ground. Possibly built about 1800 by Thomas H. West, the house passed to his son, Dr. George Washington West (1803–1888), in an 1832 partition of real property following his death. Dr. West was a prominent local physician, a graduate of the University of Maryland in 1825. Dr. West owned the farm for more than 50 years and his name is shown on both the 1858 Bond and 1873 Titus maps of Frederick County.

The Dr. West house is of moderate integrity because of the large addition which engulfs a considerable part of its exterior. Interior documentation must determine the final judgement of its character retention. Other stone houses of the first quarter of the 19th century exist in the lower Middletown valley which have more exterior original materials, form, and details intact. A nearby example, although of a smaller scale, is the Levin West House (F-2-72). The outbuildings are also moderate in significance and integrity, as many farms in the valley have more numerous and varied surviving outbuilding groups.

A mansion identified as "B. West" appears on the 1808 Varle map of Washington and Frederick Counties in the approximate location of the Dr. West House. Although the title search does not confirm identity, the B. West house is probably the original section of the Dr. West House, based on approximate age, vernacular form, and association of the West family with the Petersville area.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-2-73

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858.

Cordell, Eugene F., Medical Annals of Maryland 1799-1899, Baltimore: Medical and Chirurgical Society of the State of Maryland, 1903. p. 616.

Land Records of Frederick County

(Continued on separate sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Point of Rocks, Md. - Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting					Northing			

B

Zone	Easting					Northing			

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Approximately 5 acres centered on the main dwelling house on Tax Map 83, Parcel 16.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date November 1991

street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958

city or town Frederick state Maryland 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE MD 21032-2000

Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Frederick County

Survey No. F-2-73

7.1 Description (continued)

siding shows considerable circular saw markings, leading to the theory that it is a rebuilt structure in the early 20th century on older foundations. The concrete block milk house is definitely a building of the 1930's. It is located south of the barn.

Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Frederick County

Survey No. F-2-73

9.1 Bibliography (continued)

Titus, C.O., Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

Varle, Map of Washington and Frederick Counties, 1808.

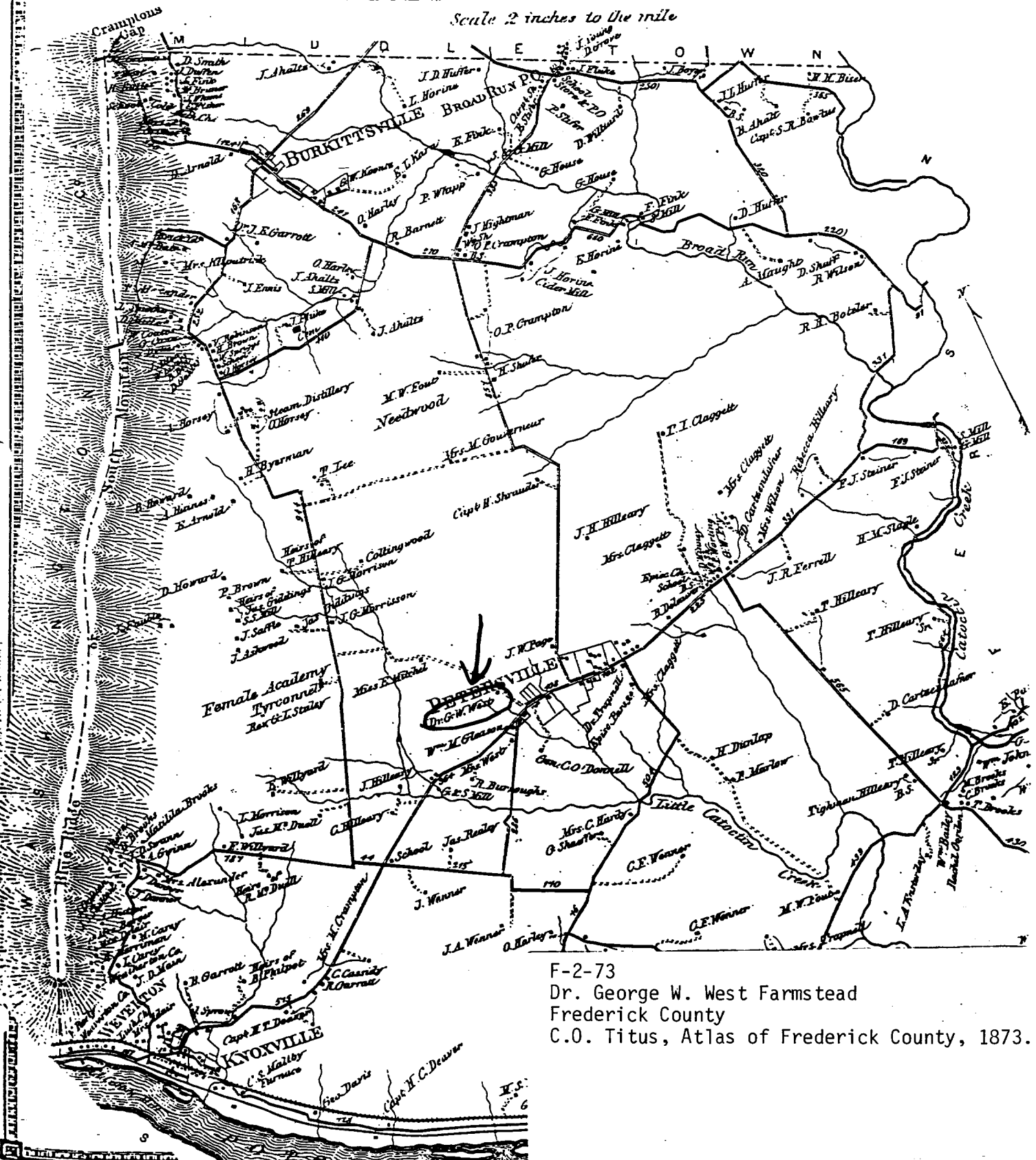
Williams, T.J.C., and Folger McKinsey, History of Frederick County, 1910.
Reprinted Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1979.

#97	LIBER/FC. 10	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
	1123/289 16 Oct 80	Howard W. & Irene G. Speckel	David M. Guggenheim, assignee of All Natl Bank of Md. mortgage, John L. Eaton, mortgage in default	23.3A.	\$275,000	
	1092/359 16 Aug 79	John L. Eaton	Margaret M. Miller, widow	23.3A.	\$240,000	
	712/602 20 Oct 64	Robert L. & Margaret M. Miller	William S. & Charlotte B. Blessley	3 parcels 110A.		
	501/306 31 Mar 52	Wm. S. & Charlotte B. Blessley	Obed A. & Mannie Dottemann	3 parcels 110A.		
	360/79 26 Oct 26	Obed A. Dottemann et al.	Eugene Sponseller, widow	110A.		
	330/165 1 Apr 20	Eugene Sponseller	Charles S. Willard & Goldie S. Willard	127A.		
	324/333 3 Apr 18	Charles S. Willard	G. Ernest Magaha & Est. M. Magaha.	127A. 33A. + 11A. + 83A. 127A.		F-2-73
	HWB 294/595 9 Mar 11	G. Ernest Magaha	George M. S. Magaha & Mary E. Magaha	127A.		

LIBER/FL. O	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
STH 267/576 1 Mar 05	George W. S. Magaha	John M. Ahalt of Joshua	33A + 83A. + 11A.	\$7,680	
SLJ 11/747 8 Apr 1896 (merger of?) paid	John M. Ahalt of Joshua	Vincent S. Keplee & Annie A. Keplee	Resurvey on "Maryland" 33A	\$1485	
SLJ 13/268 22 Oct 1892 (merger mortgage)	John M. Ahalt of Joshua	James R. & Eliza Lee Roche	"Resurvey on Mary- land" 83A. + 11A. Resurvey on "Maryland"	\$4732.50	
SLJ 3/252 31 Oct 1892	John M. Ahalt of Joshua	James R. & Eliza Lee Roche			
AF 9/5 2 Apr 1884	James R. Roche	George W. West	83A. Resurvey on Maryland	\$8,000	
JS 40/38 24 Apr 1832	George W. West	Joseph & Mary Henrietta West	11A; refers to division of land between Levin West, Joseph West & George W. West	\$400	
JS 38/53 23 Apr 1832	George W. West		Property of Thos H. West, dec. 203A Resurvey on Maryland		

PETERSVILLE DIST No. 12

Scale 2 inches to the mile



F-2-73

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Frederick County

C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

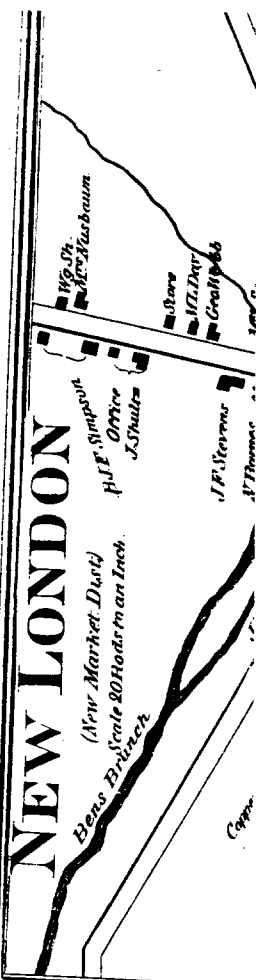
LEWISTOWN

(Cragerstown Dist)
Scale 21 Rods to an Inch



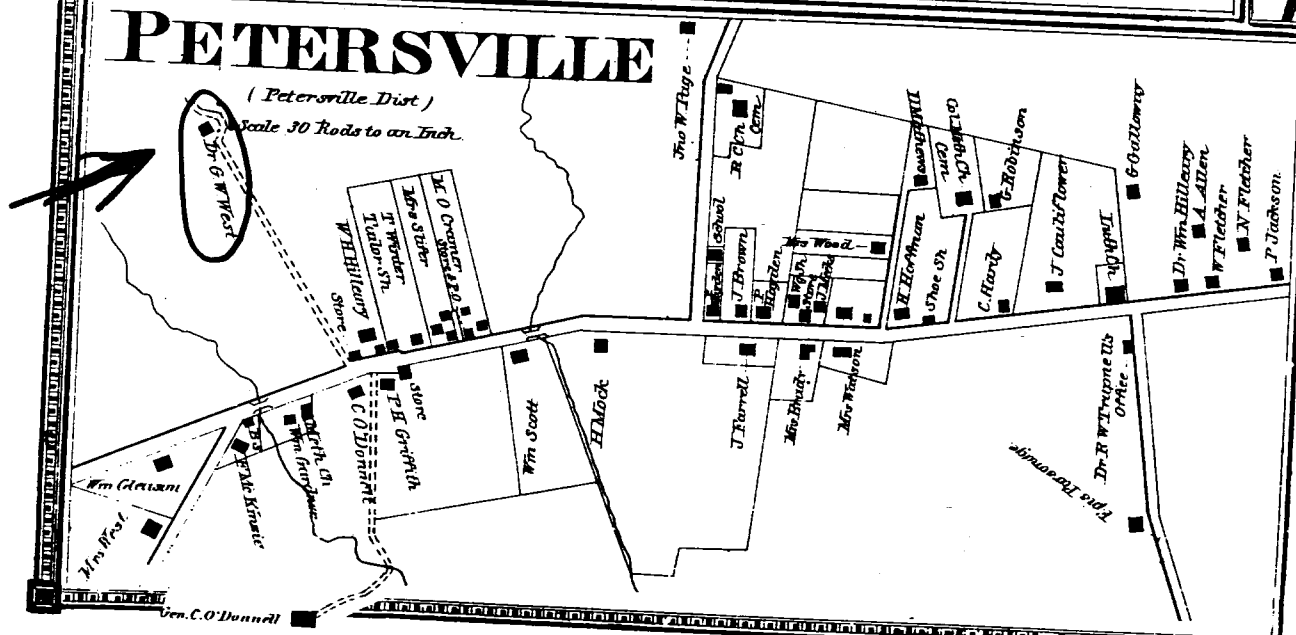
NEW LONDON

(New Market Dist)
Scale 20 Rods to an Inch



PETERSVILLE

(Peteronille Dist)
Scale 30 Rods to an Inch



F-2-73
Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.
Detail of Petersville Map



F-2-73
Dr. George W. West Farmstead
Frederick County
USGS Point of Rocks, Md. - Va.
1:24000









